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Asbury Theological Seminary

**A Syllabus and General Guide for
Narrative Counseling
CO520
Summer 1
2004**

Tapiwa N. Mucherera, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pastoral Counseling
Asbury Theological Seminary

I. Course Description:

This course is designed as an examination of the theory and practice of a postmodern approach to counseling from the perspective of narrative. The process of authoring and reauthoring lives through stories will be examined from the disciplines of literature, psychology, Bible, theology, psychotherapy and spiritual direction.

II. General Goals: The goals of CO520 are to help students:

1. Develop a basic understanding of the issues of postmodern theory and techniques of counseling.
2. Integrate narrative theory with the practice of narrative counseling.
3. Bridge the gap between exegesis and diegesis in Bible studies.
4. Examine the importance of asking timely, well-formulated questions.
5. Explore how their own lives have been authored and discover ways to reauthor themselves from the perspective of the biblical metanarratives.
6. Find cross-cultural means of communication,
7. Discover ways to become practitioners of Narrative Counseling,

III. Prerequisite For the Course:

IV. Time: The class will Tues, May 24 – Friday, June 4th .

First day of class: 8:30 – 5:00pm (w/ lunch break 12-1)

Other days: 8:30-12:00 noon

No Class Memorial Day – Monday, May 31, 2004.

V. A. Course Reading: A minimum of 1500 pages of reading in textbooks and research projects will be required. A 5 page double spaced annotated bibliography will be submitted after completion of class.

B. Research Projects: Students will select a topic related to narrative studies for research and write a 15-18 page academic paper.

C. Practice Sessions: Students will be asked to practice narrative counseling skills in class sessions and this will be used to evaluate integration of academic knowledge and clinical skills.

Evaluation System:

The following percentages will determine the numerical and the letter grade.

- 45% Research project
- 35% Team role-play and class discussion
- 20% Reading report (Annotated reading report – 5 pages double spaced)

Due date: **All the work for this class is due Friday June 25th, 2004, with no exceptions.**

VII. Texts:

- 1) Monk, Winslade, Crocket and Epston: Narrative Therapy in Practice: The Archeology of Hope, Jossey Bass.
- 2) Morgan Alice. What is Narrative Therapy? An easy to read introduction , Adelaide: Australia Dulwich Centre, 2000
- 3) Wimberly, Edward P. Recalling our own Stories: Spiritual Renewal for Religious Caregivers. CA: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1997.
- 4). White C, and Denborough D, Introduction to Narrative Therapy: A collection of practice-based writings. Adelaide:Australia Dulwich Centre, 2000
- 5) White, Michael. Reflections on Narrative Practices: Essays and Interviews Adelaide:Australia Dulwich Centre, 2000
- 6). http://narrativeapproaches.com/narrative%20papers%20folder/journey_chart.htm
When you get to the site (article), click on Introduction and the whole article will show. You can read it there or download etc. The title of the article is: **Unexpected Journey: Invitation to Diversity**. By Dean Lobovits and John Prowell.
- 7).Mucherera T. N. Narrative Counseling from a Non-Western Perspective. Forthcoming article for publication to be presented at the Therapeutic Conversation conference (May 6th 2004). This article is in the Mucherera lecture powerpoint folder.

Narrative Counseling CO520

Class meets 8:30 – 5:00pm 1st day, then 8:30-12noon

Class Schedule

Date	Hour	Class Topic
Monday, May 24	8:30- 5:00pm	Introduction to N.C. What is in a story? Break Telling Our Stories
Tuesday May 25	8:30-12 Noon	Story Listening Skills Asking Questions Break Developing An Attitude of Hope Discovering Competencies, Building on Strengths
Wed May 26	8:30-12 Noon	Narrative Concepts & Assumptions Cinephotography Stories Past-present, Present-present, Future-present Time
Thursday May 27	8:30-12 Noon	Cross-Cultural Counseling Conversations Break Cross-cultural counseling -Ingredients
Friday May 28	8:30-12 Noon	Cross-cultural narratives Break Pratcice of Narrative Cross-cultural conversations

MONDAY MAY 31 ----- No Class

Tuesday June 1st	8:30-12 Noon	Uncovering Biblical Stories of faith The Healing Power of Stories
Weds June 2nd	8:30- 12 Noon	Limitations of Narrative Practice Writing Narrative conversations
Thursday June 3rd	8:30- 12 Noon	Theory to practice

Friday June 4th
VIII.

8:30- 12 Noon
Bibliography:

Theory to practice

- 1) Almond, Barbara. The Therapeutic Narrative: Fictional Relationships and the Process of Psychological Change. CN: Praeger, 1996.
- 2) Alter, Robert. The Art of Biblical Narrative. NY: BasicBooks, 1981.
- 3) Anderson, H. & E. Foley. Mighty Stories, Dangerous Rituals: Weaving Together the Human and the Divine. CA: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1998.
- 4) Anderson, Harlene. Conversation, Language, and Possibilities: A Postmodern Approach to Therapy. NY: BasicBooks, 1997.
- 5) Boomershine, Thomas E. Story Journey: An Invitation to the Gospel as Storytelling. TN: Abingdon Press, 1990.
- 6) Bradt, Kevin M. Story as a Way of Knowing. MO: Sheed & Ward, 1997.
- 7) Brizee, Robert. The Gift of Listening. MO: Chalice Press, 1993.
- 8) Brockelman, Paul. The Inside Story: A Narrative Approach to Religious Understanding and Truth. NY: State Univ. of NY Press, 1992.
- 9) Bruner, Jerome. Acts of Meaning. MA: Harvard Univ. Press, 1990.
- 10) Capps, Donald. Living Stories: Pastoral Counseling in Congregational Context. MN: Fortress Press, 1998.
- 11) Coles, Robert. The Call of Stories: Teaching and the Moral Imagination. MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1989.
- 12) Crossan, John D. The Dark Interval: Towards a Theology of Story. IL: Argus Communications, 1975.
- 13) Diamond, Jonathan. Narrative Means to Sober Ends: Treating Addiction and its Aftermath. NY: The Guilford Press, 2000.
- 14) Eakin, Paul J. How Are Lives Become Stories: Making Selves. NY: Cornell University Press, 1999.
- 15) Epton, D. & M. White. Experience, Contradiction, Narrative & Imagination. S. Australia: Dulwich Centre Publications, 1992.

- 16) Eron, Joseph & T. Lund. Narrative Solutions in Brief Therapy. NY: The Guilford Press, 1996.
- 17) Eslinger, Richard L. Narrative Imagination: Preaching the Worlds that Shape Us. MN: Fortress Press, 1995.
- 18) Freedman, J. & G. Combs. Narrative Therapy: The Social Construction of Preferred Realities. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1996.
- 19) Freeman, J. et al. Playful Approaches to Serious Problems: Narrative Therapy with Children & their Families. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1997.
- 20) Furman, Ben. Solution Talk: Hosting Therapeutic Conversations. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1992.
- 21) Gersie, Alida. Storymaking in Bereavement: Dragons Fight in the Meadow. PA: Jessica Kingsley Pub, 1991.
- 22) Gilligan, S. & R. Price. Therapeutic Conversations. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1993.
- 23) Goldberg, Michael. Theology & Narrative: A Critical Introduction. PA: Trinity Press Int'l, 1991.
- 24) Griffith, James L. & M. The Body Speaks: Therapeutic Dialogues for Mind-Body Problems. NY: BasicBooks, 1994.
- 25) Hudson, Patricia. Rewriting Love Stories: Brief Marital Therapy. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1991.
- 26) Kerby, Anthony P. Narrative and the Self. IN: Indiana Univ. Press, 1991.
- 27) Lee, D. John. Storying Ourselves: A Narrative Perspective on Christians in Psychology. MI: Baker Books, 1993.
- 28) L'Engle, Madeleine. The Rock that is Higher: Story as Truth. IL: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993.
- 29) Lopez, Barry. About this Life: Journeys on the Threshold of Memory. NY: Vintage Books, 1998.
- 30) Louhlin, Gerard. Telling God's Story: Bible, Church & Narrative Theology. NY: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1996.
- 31) McFague, Sallie. Metaphorical Theology: Models of God in Religious Language. PA: Fortress Press, 1982.

- 32) McNamee, Sheila. Therapy as Social Construction. London: Sage Publications, 1992.
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- 34) Milton, Ralph. Is This Your Idea of a Good Time, God?: Discovering Yourself in Biblical Stories. Canada: Wood Lake Books, 1995.
- 35) Monk, Winslade, Crocket, Epston. Narrative Therapy in Practice: The Archaeology of Hope. CA: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1997.
- 36) Osborne, Grant R. The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction to Biblical Interpretation. IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991.
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- 38) Pearce, Stephen S. Flash of Insight: Metaphor and Narrative in Therapy. MA: Allyn & Bacon, 1996.
- 39) Polkinghorne, Donald E. Narrative Knowing and the Human Sciences. NY: State Univ. of NY Press, 1988.
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- 41) Rhoads, D. & D. Michie. Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel. PA: Fortress Press, 1982.
- 42) Ricoeur, Paul. Time & Narrative v.1. IL: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1983.
- 43) Ricoeur, Paul. Time & Narrative v.2. IL: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1984.
- 44) Ricoeur, Paul. Time & Narrative v.3. IL: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1985.
- 45) Sarbin, Theodore R. Narrative Psychology: The Storied Nature of Human Conduct. CN: Praeger, 1986.
- 46) Shotter, John. Conversational Realities: Constructing Life Through Language. London: Sage Publications, 1993.
- 47) Smith, Criag & D. Nylund. Narrative Therapies with Children and Adolescents. NY: The Guilford Press, 1997.
- 48) Taylor, Daniel. The Healing Power of Stories: Creating Yourself through the Stories of your Life. NY: Doubleday, 1996.

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- 52) White, M. & D. Epston. Narrative Means to Therapeutic Ends. NY: W.W. Norton & Co., 1990.
- 53) White, Michael. Selected Papers. S. Australia: Dulwich Centre Publications, 1989.
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- 58) Witherington, Ben. Paul's Narrative Thought World: The Tapestry of Tragedy & Triumph. KY: Westminster/JK Press, 1994.
- 59) Zimmerman & Dickerson. If Problems Talked: Narrative Therapy in Action. NY: The Guilford Press, 1999.

